# ORIGINAL

### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

|                           | Maria Tarangan            |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| JEAN L RAST               | LUTTER OF THE             |
| Plaintiff                 | Beparty Chark             |
| vs                        | CIVIL ACTION FILE  NUMBER |
| GMAC MORTGAGE CORPORATION | )                         |
| d/b/a Ditech com,         | } 1:04-0Y-3631            |
| Defendant                 | )                         |
|                           | $ \mathbf{JIC}$           |

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#### **NOTICE OF REMOVAL**

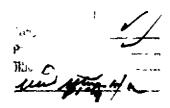
Defendant GMAC Mortgage Corporation, d/b/a Ditech com ("Defendant"), by counsel and pursuant to 28 U S C §§ 1441 and 1446, hereby removes to this Court a civil action instituted and pending in the State Court of Fulton County, State of Georgia the State Court") which is styled <u>Jean L Rast v GMAC Mortgage Corporation, d/b/a Ditech com</u>, Civil Action File No 2004CV92184 In support of this Notice of Removal, Defendant states as follows

# The Procedural Prerequisites For Removal Have Been Met

- This action is removable to federal district court pursuant to 28 USC § 1331 based upon federal question jurisdiction
- On or about October 7, 2004, Plaintiff filed in the State Court a

  Complaint against Defendant A copy of the Complaint is attached hereto as

  Exhibit 1



- 3 The Complaint was accepted by stipulation of counsel on November 12, 2004 Accordingly, this Notice of Removal is filed within the 30-day period required by 28 U S C § 1446(b)
- 4 Plaintiff's Complaint alleges a violation of the Truth In Lending
  Act (15 U S C Sec 1601, et seq ) and Home Ownership Equity Protection Act
  (15 U S C Sec 1639)
- 5 Pursuant to 28 USC §1331, the district courts of the United States have original jurisdiction over all civil actions arising under the Constitution, laws, or treaties of the United States and, as such, have original jurisdiction over this action
- Because this is a civil action over which the district courts of the United States have original jurisdiction, Defendants are entitled to remove this action to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia, pursuant to 28 U S C §§ 1331 and 1441(b)
- The original of Exhibit 2 attached hereto (Notice of Removal to Federal Court) is being dispatched by Defendant for filing in the State Court simultaneously with the dispatch of this pleading to this Court. A copy of this notice (less attachments) is attached to the Notice of Removal to Federal Court being filed in the State Court.
- 8 The exhibits hereto include all pleadings received by or served upon Defendant in connection with Plaintiff's claims.
- 9 Venue lies in this Court pursuant to 28 U S C § 1441(a) because Plaintiff's action is pending within this Court's geographic jurisdiction

For the reasons cited above, Defendant removes this action to this Court from the State Court of Fulton County, Georgia

This 13th day of December, 2004

Georgia Bar No 463636 Jefferson M Allen Georgia Bar No 010898 Attorneys for Defendant GMAC Mortgage Corporation d/b/a Ditech com

McGuireWoods LLP 1170 Peachtree Street, N E Suite 2100 Atlanta, Georgia 30309 Telephone (404) 443-5730 Facsimile (404) 443-5784

> Andrew J Soven Mark S Melodia Melissa P Marschner Attorneys for Defendant GMAC Mortgage Corporation d/b/a Ditech com

REED SMITH LLP Princeton Forrestal Village 136 Main Street Princeton, New Jersey 08540 Telephone (609) 987-0050 Facsimile (609) 951-0824

Motions Pro Hac Vice Pending

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR FULTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

FILED IN OFFICE

OCT 0 7 2004

DEPUTY CLERK SUPERIOR COURT
FULTON COUNTY GA

2004CV92184

Jean L Rast,

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Plaintiff,

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CIVIL ACTION

File No

GMAC Mortgage Corporation dba Ditech com,

Defendant

# COMPLAINT

Jean L Rast (referred to as "Rast") for her complaint against the defendant, GMAC Mortgage Corporation dba ditech com ("defendant" or "Ditech") alleges and states

- The defendant named here is a foreign corporation doing business in this State and maintains an office in this County
  - The defendant, direch is a large, sophisticated lender that solicits clients for second mortgage loans through a massive television campaign and through the use of an internet web site. Direch advertises that it allows the public to deal directly with the lender and avoid the middleman, implying that it will cost the borrower less than a traditional loan through a bank. The web site also claims "Competitive Rates Our convenient and speedy process enables us to offer some of the lowest rates in the business for all types of home loans. We challenge you to find lower rates and fees from any other lender out there!" See

EXHIBIT

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www ditech com/about/why ditech jsp. As set forth more fully below, ditech regularly and systematically charges exorbitant fees in connection with its second mortgage loans

Unlike traditional loans that are closed by a closing attorney, Ditech's practice is to have the documents delivered by overnight mail or a notary or "document signer" deliver the documents to the customer at the customer's home. As stated on its web site. "In some states, for a refinance or second mortgage, ditech com will send a document signer to your home or another place that you designate so you can sign all vour loan documents" See

www ditech com/questions/loanapplication jsp#5 The Notary does not have the ability or knowledge to answer any questions regarding the loan The signer is merely instructed where to obtain signatures, nothing more These practices constitute the unauthorized practice of law in the State of Georgia See IN re UPL Advisory Opinion 2003-2, 2003 Ga Lexis 946 (November 10, 2003) This deceptive scheme violates the consumer protection laws enacted by Congress and the entire spirit of the "Truth in Lending" laws designed to provide consumers with easily understood and disclosed information regarding the true cost of credit This is an action pursuant to the Truth in Lending Act ("TILA"),

codified at 15 U S C Sec 1601 et seq. TILA was enacted by Congress

in 1968 as Title I of the Consumer Protection Act TILA is a remedial

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statute that is to be construed liberally Ellis v GMAC, 160 F 3d 703, 707 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir 1998)

Filed 12/13/2004

- 5 The Federal Reserve Board adopted Regulation Z shortly after enactment of the 1968 Act Regulation Z can be found at 12 CFR 226 1 et seq. The purpose of TILA and Regulation Z is to promote the informed use of credit and level the playing field between competing creditors
- 6 The law is designed to protect consumers in credit transactions by requiring the clear disclosure of the key terms and costs of the lending transaction The goal of TILA is to enable the consumer to understand what their actual costs of borrowing will be on a given transaction
- 7 TILA intends to provide consumers with an informed understanding of the cost of credit by forcing lenders to make certain disclosures
  - Additionally, TILA provides for material disclosures under 15 U S C Sec 1601 (u), which includes "the annual percentage rate, the method of determining the finance charge and the balance upon which a finance charge will be imposed, the amount of the finance charge, the amount to be financed, the total of payments, the number of and amount of payments, the due dates or periods of payments scheduled to repay the indebtedness, and the disclosures required by [15 U S C Sec 1639] (a) ]"
- 9 Additionally, when a consumer is using their home as collateral for a loan The TILA provides the consumer with the right to cancel non-

purchase money loans that include liens on their homes. See 15 U S C Sec 1635 (a)

Filed 12/13/2004

- 10 The right to cancel may be exercised until midnight of the third business day after the loan is consummated. This right may be extended up to three years if the consumer borrower is not provided accurate material disclosures See 15 U S C Sec 1635 (f)
- 11 In 1994, Congress added to the TILA by enacting the Home Ownership Equity Protection Act, 15 U S C § 1639, ("HOEPA") HOEPA was enacted by Congress to curb predatory lending
- 12 Congress found that several high-rate lenders were using non-purchase money mortgages to take advantage of unsophisticated and low income homeowners in a "predatory" fashion See S Rep 103-169, 1994 USCCAN 1881, 1907
- 13 HOEPA provides additional protections for consumers whose loan falls within the definition of a "High Cost Mortgage" A loan is considered a "high cost mortgage" and triggers the HOEPA requirements if one of two tests is met. The first test is whether the consumer was charged more than 8% of the "total loan amount" in points and fees. In setting the 8% bright line test Congress found that the 8% level for points and fees was well above the industry average. The 8% trigger was to "prevent unscrupulous creditors from using grossly inflated fees and charges to take advantage of unwitting consumers" S Rep. 103-169,

1994 U.S.S.C. A.N. 1881, 1908. The second test is whether the APR. exceeds the comparable treasuries rate by more than 10%

Filed 12/1<u>3</u>/2004

- At least three business days prior to closing a "high cost" loan, Lenders 14 are required by 15 U S C. Sec. 1639 to provide the following written disclosures in conspicuous type size
  - (a) the annual percentage rate,
  - (b) the amount of the monthly payment,
  - (c) that the Consumers were not required to complete the transaction merely because they received the disclosures or that they signed a loan application,
  - (d) that the loan would result in a mortgage against their home, and
  - (e) that they could lose their home, any money they have put into it, if they did not meet their obligation

The form used by ditech for the disclosures required by HOEPA fails to set out the disclosures in conspicuous type size. The form used by ditech for the disclosures required by HOEPA also erroneously and deceptively includes 2 references to the loan interest rate

#### **PARTIES**

- Plaintiff is a "consumer" as defined under TILA, 15 USC § 1602(h) 15
- 16 The plaintiff is a resident of Georgia
- Defendant, ditech, is a mortgage company and a "creditor" as defined 17 under TILA, 15 USC § 1602(f)

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Ditech has made more than five loans secured by real property in the each of the years 1999, 2000, and 2001

#### COUNT I

#### VIOLATION OF TRUTH IN LENDING

- 19 Rast incorporates by reference, the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs
- 20 Rast entered into a loan that was secured by her principal dwelling
- 21 Rast paid at least was charged up front fees of at least \$6,005 for a \$33,400 loan with an alleged APR of 20 881% Rast avers the actual APR is 21 5271%, a difference of 6461%
- 22 On the day she singed the loan documents she was not provided copies of any documents She was subsequently provided documents The Truth in Lending Disclosure Statement provided to the Rast is attached as Exhibit 1
- 23 She was entitled to receive 2 notices of her right to cancel the transaction On the day she signed, she received none
- 24 The notices were required to set forth the date the right to cancel period expires pursuant to 12 CFR Sec 226 23 (b)(1)(v)
- 25 The notice of right to cancel that was provided later did not include the date their right to cancel expired Rast was not given the proper notice of the right to cancel in violation of the TILA
- 26 The schedule of payments provided was inaccurate. The first payment was not due on January 1, 2001 as set forth on the Truth in Lending

Document 1

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and against defendant, ditech

| Disclosure Statement The first payment was paid from the loan                |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| proceeds See Closing Instructions, Exhibit 2                                 |  |  |  |
| The date of the note was November 5, 2000                                    |  |  |  |
| Plaintiff gave the defendant written notice of an election to cancel the     |  |  |  |
| transaction within three years of the date set forth on the note             |  |  |  |
| Plaintiff's written election to cancel was given on September 23, 2003       |  |  |  |
| A response is required within 20 days. See 15 U.S.C. Sec. 1635 (a)           |  |  |  |
| The defendant did not honor or respond to Rast's written election to         |  |  |  |
| cancel at any time   |  |  |  |
| Rast was forced to file this action to confirm the election to cancel        |  |  |  |
| Wherefore, the Rast prays this court grant the following relief in her favor |  |  |  |

- a A judgment confirming the election to cancel the transaction and granting Rast the relief she is entitled to under 15 U S C § 1635,
- b An award of statutory damages under 15 USC Sec 1640 for ditech's failure to timely respond to the notice of election to cancel,
- c An award of costs and attorneys fees,
- d Such other and further relief that the court deems just and proper

## **COUNT II**

#### VIOLATION OF THE HOME OWNERSHIP AND EQUITY PROTECTION ACT

Rast incorporates by reference the foregoing allegations

- Rast was charged an APR that exceeded the applicable treasuries rate by more than 10% and points and fees in excess of 8% of the "total loan amount"
- Rast's loan falls within the definition of a "high cost" mortgage as that term is defined by 15 U S C § 1602 (aa)
- Rast's loan falls within the parameters of HOEPA, 15 U S C § 1639
- 37 HOEPA requires that certain disclosures be made in conspicuous type size to consumers at least three business days before loan consummation See 15 U S C Sec 1639 (b)(1)
- Rast was not provided the notices required three business days in advance as required by 15 U S C Sec 1639 (b)
- The disclosures required by 15 USC Sec 1639 (a) are deemed material disclosures under 15 USC Sec 1602 (u)
- The defendant included a prepayment penalty that failed to comply with 15 U S C Sec 1639 (c)(2)(B)
- The inclusion of terms, prohibited by HOEPA, are deemed to be failure to provide material disclosures for purposes of rescission 15 USC.

  Sec. 1639 (1)
- Rast gave the defendant written notice of the election to cancel the transaction within three years of the date set forth on the note
- The defendant did not honor or respond to the written election to cancel at any time
- Rast was forced to file this action to confirm the election to cancel

Wherefore, the Rast prays this court grant the following relief in her favor and against defendant, ditech

- a A judgment confirming the election to cancel the transaction and granting Rast the relief she is entitled to under 15 U S C § 1635,
- b An award of statutory damages under 15 USC Sec 1640 for ditech's failure to timely respond to the notice of election to cancel,
- c An award of costs and attorneys fees,
- d Such other and further relief that the court deems just and proper

Respectfully submitted,

F Anthony Blakey

Kelly, Lovett, Mullis & Blakey, P

2539 Lafayette Plaza Drive

P O Box 70879

Albany, GA 31708

(229) 888-9128

GA BAR No 061817

# EXHIBIT 1

### TRUTH IN LENDING DISCLOSURE (THIS IS NEITHER A CONTRACT NOR A COMMITMENT TO LEND)

Applicant Jean L Rast

155 Roswell Farms Court Roswell, GA 30075

Lender GMAC Mortgage Corporation DBA ditech com 3200 Park Center Dr Suite 150 Costa Mesa CA 92626

| I.C             | 38WCII, OA 30073                                   |  |  |                       | •                                       |
|-----------------|--|--|--|-----------------------|---|
|                 |  |  | Loan No 0000   | 652332570             |   |
| operty 15       | 5 Roswell Farms C                                  | ouri Type  | of Loan Con  | ventional             |   |
|                 | oswell GA 30075                                    | ·  |  | ember 5, 2000         |   |
|                 |  | Disclos  | ure Type Fina  | ıl                    |   |
| NNUAL           | PERCENTAGE   | FINANCE CHARGE   | Amour  | nt Financed           | Total of Payments                       |
|                 | RATE<br>ir credit as a yearly rate.                | The dollar amount the credit will cost   | mount the credit will cost. The anyour of credit provided to you or on your behalf |                       | The amount you will have paid after     |
| in test of year |  | YOU  |  |                       | you have made all payments as           |
|                 |  |  |  |                       | scheduled                               |
|                 | 20.881%  | \$ 61,585 55   | \$ 26,   | 667.24                | 5 88,252.79                             |
| EPAYNENT        | See Payment Schedule                               | below  |  |                       |   |
| PAYMENT S       | CHEDULE  | <del></del>  |  |                       |   |
| NUMBER OF       |  |  | NUMBER OF  | AMOUNT OF             |   |
| PAYMENTS        | PAYMENTS   | WHEN PAYMENTS ARE DUE  | PAYMENTS   | PAYMENTS              | WHEN PAYMENTS ARE DUE                   |
| 179             | 490 32   | Monthly beginning 01/01/2001   |  |                       |   |
| 1               | 485 51   | Monthly beginning 12/01/2015   | li l   | ŀ                     |   |
|                 | ]  |  | lj :   |                       |   |
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|                 |  |  | 1  | <b>!</b>              |   |
|                 |  |  |  |                       |   |
| EMAND FE/       | TURE X This loan                                   | does not have a Demand Feature   | This loan has a  | Demand Feature as fol | lows .                                  |
| EQUIRED D       | EPOSIT [] The ann                                  | nual percentage rate does not take into acc  | ount your requires   | d deposit             |   |
| ARIABLE R       | ATE FEATURE 🔲                                      | This Loan has a Variable Rate Feature V  | anable Rate Disch  | osures have been prov | ded to you earlier                      |
| ECURITY Y       | ou are giving a security                           | interest in the property located at  | 155 Roswell Fari<br>Roswell GA 30  |                       |   |
|                 |  | property X cannot assume the remaind the remainder of the mortgage on the o          |  | on the original terms |   |
| FILING / REC    | CORDING FEES \$ 10                                 | 00 20 NON-FI   | LING INSURAN   | CE \$ N/A             |   |
|                 |  | neowner's insurance or fire and extends<br>you will be required to obtain flood insu |  |                       |   |
| ATE CHAR        | GES If a payment is mo                             | ore than 15 days late you will be charge   | d a late charge of   | 6 000% of the pay     | meni                                    |
|                 | TT If you pay off your i                           |  |  | <u></u>               |   |
| X may           |  | to pay a prepayment penalty  |  |                       | _                                       |
| may             | ay X will not have to pay a minimum finance charge |  |  |                       |   |
| may             | x will not be en                                   | inited to a refund of part of the finance ch   | arge   |                       |   |
|                 | ract documents for any<br>rfunds and penalties     | y additional information about non-pa  | vment, default, a  | ny required repaymen  | nt in full before the scheduled date, a |
| /We hereby      | acknowledge reads                                  | ing and receiving a complete copy  | of this disclos  | sure                  |   |
|                 |  | BORROWER/DATE  |  |                       | BORROWER/D/                             |
|                 |  | BORROWER/DATE  |  |                       | BORROWER/D/                             |

# EXHIBIT 2

\$490 32





#### CLOSING INSTRUCTIONS

LOAN NUMBER 000652332570 CLOSING AGENT Ditach COM November 2 2000 TODAY 5 DATE **ADDRESS** 3200 Park Center Drive CLOSING DATE November 5 2000 #150 Costs Mass CA 92626 **FUNDING DATE** November 15 2000 January 1 2001 FIRST PAYMENT DATE CONTACT Rochelle Morales LAST PAYMENT DATE (714) 800 6378 December 1, 2015 PHONE NUMBER NET FUNDING/CHECK AMOUNT \$33,400,00 FAX NUMBER (714) 800 7378 BORROWER NAME(S) John L Rest PURPOSE Seconda PROPERTY TYPE One Family VESTING Jean L. Rest LOAN PROGRAM Reward Loan (110% Second SALES PRICE \$148,000 00 LOAN AMOUNT \$33 400 00 INTEREST RATE / POINTS 15 990 155 Roswell Farms Court Roswell GA MAILING ADDRESS TERM 180 months MARGIN PROPERTY ADDRESS 155 Roswell Forms Court N/A Roswell GA 30075 INDEX N/A **FULLY INDEXED RATE** N/A FIRST ADJUSTMENT CAP **SELLERS NAMES** N/A LIFE ADJUSTMENT CAP N/A FIRST PMT CHANGE DATE ESCROW NUMBER 181911 N/A INDEX DESCRIPTION **ESCROW OFFICER** N/A TITLE COMPANY TITLE ORDER NO PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST 490 32 Please Fax FINAL HUD 1 to Pamela Adams **FUNDER NAME** 

|  |                  |          |                | _              |                     |              |
|--|------------------|----------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------|
| HUD FEES<br>DESCRIPTION                    | TOTAL<br>CHARGED | BORROWER | SELLER<br>PAID | LENDER<br>PAID | THIRD<br>PARTY PAID | FEE<br>P O C |
|  |                  |          |                |                | .,                  |              |
| Loan Origination Fee                       | Б,010 00         | 5,010 00 |                |                |                     |              |
| Administration Fee                         | 995 00           | 995 00   |                |                |                     |              |
| Interim Interest 16 days @ \$14 84 per day | 237 44           | 237 44   |                |                |                     |              |
| First Payment                              | 490 32           | 490 32   |                |                |                     |              |
| Mongage Tex                                | 100 20           | 100 20   |                |                |                     |              |
| ESCROWS                                    | TOTAL            | BORROWER | SELLER         | LENDER         | THIAD               | FEE          |
| DESCRIPTION                                | CHARGED          | PAID     | PAID           | PAID           | PARTY PAID          | POC          |

Hazard Insurance Escrow (monthly escrows waived)

0 00

#### ENCLOSED ARE THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO THE MORTGAGE CLOSING YOU ARE HANDLING ON OUR BEHALF

Processor Document Summery Check Sheet

Processor Cover Sheet

PHONE NUMBER

**FAX NUMBER** 

Closing Instructions - Notice to Closing Agent & Borrower(s)

(714) 800 7202

Request For Copy or Transcript of Tax Form

Closing Instructions

**Reward Electronic Payment Plan** 

Second Mortgage Fixed Rate Note (Georgia) (VMP)

Multi State 5 Year Prepayment Addendum To Note

Occupancy Affidavit and Financial Status Truth in Landing Disclosure Statement

Notice Of Right To Cancel (General)

Correction Agreement Limited Power of Attorney

Acknowledgment of Dead of Trust / Mortgage

Certification of Trust

Borrower a Certification & Authorization (DITech)
Uniform Underwriting and Transmittal Summary

Signature/Name Affidavit

TOTAL MONTHLY PAYMENT

W 9 Request for Taxpayer Id. Num and Certification

1003 (Residential Loan Application)

Addendum To HUD 1
Reward Note Addendum

Second Mortgage - Deed of Trust (Georgia) (VMP)

Monthly Payment Letter Itemization Of Amount Financed

Error and Omissions / Compliance Agreement

Closing Accommodation Rider

Owner's Affidevit (to be used for ATM only)

#### CONDITIONS TO BE SATISFIED AT CLOSING

Cash Out in excess of existing first lion seasoned second lien all closing costs, and 1% of the new loan amount

permitted

#### CONDITIONS TO BE SATISFIED AT CLOSING

Cash Out in excess of existing first lien is easoned second lien, all closing costs, and 1% of the new loan amount.

ermitted

#### SUPERIOR COURT OF FULTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

| JEAN L RAST               | )      |   |
|---------------------------|--------|---|
| Plaintiff                 | )      |   |
| riamum                    | )<br>) |   |
| vs                        | )<br>) | CIVIL ACTION FILE<br>NUMBER 2004CV92184 |
| GMAC MORTGAGE CORPORATION | )      |   |
| d/b/a Ditech com,         | )      |   |
|                           | )      |   |
| Defendant                 | )      |   |
|                           | }      |   |

#### NOTICE OF REMOVAL TO FEDERAL COURT

Defendant GMAC Mortgage Corporation d/b/a Ditech com ("Defendant"), by counsel, give notice that they have this day filed a Notice of Removal of this action, pursuant to 28 U S C §§ 1441 and 1446, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia, Atlanta Division Pursuant to 28 U S C § 1446(d). "the State court shall proceed no further unless and until the case is remanded." A copy of the Notice of Removal, less attachments, is attached and filed herewith as Exhibit A

This 13th day of December, 2004

Georgia Bar No 463636

Jefferson M Allen

Georgia Bar No 010898

Attorneys for Defendant

GMAC Mortgage Corporation

d/b/a Ditech com

McGuireWoods LLP 1170 Peachtree Street, N.E., Suite 2100 Atlanta, Georgia 30309 Telephone (404) 443-5730 Facsimile (404) 443-5784



Andrew J Soven
Mark S Melodia
Melissa P Marschner
Attorneys for Defendant
GMAC Mortgage Corporation
d/b/a Ditech com

Motions Pro Hac Vice Pending

REED SMITH LLP Princeton Forrestal Village 136 Main Street Princeton, New Jersey 08540 Telephone (609) 987-0050 Facsimile (609) 951-0824

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY certify that I have served a copy of the NOTICE OF REMOVAL TO

FEDERAL COURT upon all counsel by first class mail, postage prepaid, addressed to

F Anthony Blakey Kelly, Lovett, Mullis & Blakey, P C 2539 Lafayette Plaza Drive PO Box 70879 Albany, GA 31708

day of December, 2004

Gedrgia Bar No 010898

McGuireWoods LLP 1170 Peachtree Street, N E Suite 2100 Atlanta, Georgia 30309 Telephone (404) 443-5730 Facsimile (404) 443-5784

COM:468594 L

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This 13th day of December, 2004

eorgia Bar No 010898

McGuireWoods LLP 1170 Peachtree Street, N E Suite 2100 Atlanta, Georgia 30309 Telephone (404) 443-5730 Facsimile (404) 443-5784

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